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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 8, 1988 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 2 totaled 19.7 billion ton-miles, up 19.1 percent from the 16.5 billion carried in the comparable week of 1987, which included the Independence Day holiday. Both weeks included the annual coal miners' holiday.

Cumulative volume for the first 26 weeks of 1988 was an estimated 496.0 billion ton-miles carried, up 8.5 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended July 2 totaled 418,891, up 18.6 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 4.5 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were up 20.7 percent in the East, and up 16.6 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, 18 of the 20 major commodity groups increased. Loadings of coal were up 18,200 cars (21.9 percent); motor vehicles and equipment were up 7,456 cars (58.5 percent); and grain was up 1,919 cars (6.5 percent). Eleven of the 20 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

Piggyback traffic for the week ended June 25 totaled 114,082 trailers and/or containers, up 3.3 percent from the comparable week of 1987.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 25 weeks of the year was 2,707,842 trailers and/or containers, up 5.2 percent from 1987.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/2/88:

	Loadings in Week ended July 2, 1988		Change from Corresponding Week 1987			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	31,539	I	1,919	6.5	D	3,011	8.7
Other farm products	3,740	D	393	9.5	D	17	0.5
Metallic ores	21,718	I	4,087	23.2	I	1	0.005
Coal	101,461	I	18,200	21.9	D	18,216	15.2
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	18,076	I	3,837	26.9	D	1,475	7.5
Nonmetallic minerals	10,613	I	2,415	29.5	I	795	8.1
Grain mill products	10,822	I	1,498	16.1	I	524	5.1
Food and kindred products	11,476	I	1,787	18.4	I	466	4.2
Primary forest products	9,633	I	312	3.3	D	32	0.3
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,090	I	642	8.6	D	22	0.3
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,692	I	711	5.9	I	57	0.5
Chemicals and allied products	27,461	I	3,393	14.1	I	577	2.1
Petroleum products	5,556	I	1,108	24.9	D	91	1.6
Stone, clay and glass products	11,820	I	1,782	17.8	I	214	1.8
Coke	5,409	I	329	6.5	D	324	5.7
Metals and products	10,793	I	1,566	17.0	I	291	2.8
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,206	I	7,456	58.5	D	1,914	8.7
Waste and scrap materials	9,046	I	1,901	26.6	I	39	0.4
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,634	D	194	6.9	I	190	7.7
All other carloads	86,106	I	13,197	18.1	I	2,171	2.6
Total Cars Loaded	418,891	I	65,553	18.6	D	19,777	4.5
Corresponding week of 1987	353,338						

	1988	1987	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (26 weeks)	10,969,573	10,315,212	I 6.3
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
25 weeks ended June 25	476.3	440.5	I 8.1
Week ended July 2	19.7	16.5	I 19.1
26 Weeks cumulative	496.0	457.0	I 8.5

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